

POAMN Network News

Resource Guide for Older Adult Ministries

ISSUE 7

SUMMER 2009

Presbyterian
Older Adult
Ministries



NETWORK

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the Summer, 2009 issue of *POAMN Network News: resource guide for older adult ministries*. It is a pleasure to offer you resources that can move forward your ministries with older adults.

Wait a minute! What's this?

ANNUAL CONFERENCE ALERT!
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That's right. This issue highlights registration for POAMN's annual conference scheduled for September 29th through October 2nd in marvelous Tucson, Arizona. **Do not wait to register. Please reserve hotel accommodations right away.** The hotel has booked another conference scheduled for the same week and rooms will fill up fast. Please see the registration information in this issue to answer your questions.

This *PNN* issue has many other highlights, such as 2010 cruise information, websites worth visiting, program suggestions, quips and quotes, and helpful ministry hints. So, enjoy your time with POAMN's quarterly newsletter!

Shalom,

Rev. Mike Fonfara

PART TIME CHAPLAIN, LAKELAND, FLORIDA

Florida Presbyterian Homes, a continuing care retirement community seeks a part time chaplain. Rotation is every two months. Responsibilities include leadership of Sunday morning worship for approximately 100 residents; leadership of weekly Bible study; comfort residents and their families, especially those in assisted living, nursing center and hospital during decline that may be needed or assigned. For additional information on Florida Presbyterian Homes, please visit our web page: www.fphi.org. To apply, send CV to Kim Roberts, Manager of Human Resources: kroberts@fphi.org.

Lord, make us mindful of the little things that grow and blossom in these days to make the world beautiful for us.

- W.E.B. DuBois

A SPECIAL LETTER FROM POAMN'S PRESIDENT

Dear POAMN family,

I trust that you are having a wonderful summer. I am personally looking forward to the Conference in Tucson starting on September 29, because Cindy and her team have put together a phenomenal program!

Our Keynote Speakers will provide ways of bringing true joy into your ministry and older adults regardless of an individual's current situation. Our workshops will provide practical resources that will surely enhance your ministry. The worship programs will not only inspire us, but will also give us examples of worship to engage our older adults.

You will gain tools that will help older adults navigate through the many changes that face them as they travel through these uncertain and difficult economic times. There will be opportunities for networking about successful older adult programs that are flourishing within other churches and communities nationally. Some of you may be questioning whether or not you can afford to attend the conference, and my response is that you can't afford not to attend!

During these complicated times, the church is in the perfect position to meet the needs within our communities. I believe that when we tap the strengths of our older adults our potential is limitless. We need to rise above the mundane every day issues and focus on ministry and mission to and with our older adults. This is why I am so excited about POAMN. We provide the resources and the networking to help you in your ministry. You can't be a person to stand on the corner and say as Jesus passes by: "Here I am Jesus, don't you see me waving?" We need to stand up and step up with Jesus in our parade of service with older adults. So join in and join up with POAMN.

Doug Kurtz

MINISTRY SUGGESTION - SUPPORT GROUPS

No one really knows how many older adults in the community suffer because they do not know where to find appropriate support groups. Life issues like

grief, health concerns (cancer, cardio-vascular disease, diabetes, etc), job hunting, and others minimize daily enjoyments and make normal lifestyles difficult. Joining a support group provides encouragement and ideas to manage difficulties like the above.

Could your congregation, recreation club, retirement community, local newspaper, service club, or other gathering of concerned people provide information to these older adults? Research, create and distribute a listing of support groups to neighborhood seniors and their families. In fact, your local newspaper might publish your list as a public service. Be sure to make the information known to the people who need it.

Include in each listing the name of the organization, type of support group, contact person(s), cost, phone number, e-mail address, meeting location/times/days, and any other pertinent information. Make sure the information is accurate before you publish it.

You and your organization provide a great service by making an accurate list and taking the time to get it into needy hands.

MINISTRY SUGGESTION - COUNTY SERVICES

Have you experienced the frustration of dealing with local government as well as other public service agencies and getting nowhere?

Older adult face such frustration on a regular basis. You can do something about this dilemma. Categorizing and publishing county resources will help neighborhood older adults find their way through the maze of governmental agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and for-profit social services.

Cut through the confusion by making this list as simple as possible. Your church's older adult group, deacons, staff, or even one interested individual could do the leg work and get the list ready. Make this list simple giving name of resource, service provided, cost, contact person(s), telephone number, address, e-mail address, and anything else that an older adult must know about to take advantage of the program.

You will discover that this list will be a popular item for a lot of people. That's ministry!

CERTIFICATION CLASSES OFFERED BEFORE AND AFTER CONFERENCE

Two different classes that are part of the POAMN Certification Program are available as a Pre and Post Conference option for POAMN members. Reformed Theological Answers to Questions Facing Middle/Older Adults will be taught as a Pre-Conference offering by Marvin Simmers. This course will begin at 3:00 pm on Sunday September 27 and end around 3:00 pm on Tuesday, September 29. The Post Conference option will be Teaching Older Adults taught by Joyce MacKichan Walker and will begin immediately upon the close of the conference at 1:00 pm on Friday, October 2 and end at 9:00 pm on Saturday, October 3. Participants in the Certification Program will only be allowed to take one of the two options. In other words, we are not allowing folks to take the courses back to back since both require some preparatory reading.

The cost to take one of the courses is \$200.00 plus a non refundable \$50.00 deposit to accompany your registration for the class of your choice. Lodging arrangements are made directly with the Conference Hotel at the conference rate, so please make your reservations before August 28th. For more information please contact Carla Gentry, Certification Coordinator at 816-520-8353 or by email at: clgentry@kc.rr.com

POAMN CERTIFICATION REGISTRATION

Preferred Title: Ms. Mr. Rev. Dr.
 Male Female

Event Title: Reformed Theological Answers to Questions Facing Middle/Older Adults - Sept. 27-29
 Teaching Older Adults - Oct. 2-3

Program Fee: \$200.00 Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name: _____ Job Title: _____

Name to be used on name tag: _____

Address: _____ Home Office

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (day): _____ (evening): _____

E-mail: _____

Denomination: _____ Church Membership: _____

YES, include my contact information in roster handout

NO, do not include my contact information on the roster handout

NOTE: A non-refundable deposit (to be applied to your program fee) is requested to accompany your registration form. If the program fee is \$25–\$125, the non-refundable deposit is \$25. If the program fee is \$125 or more, the non-refundable deposit is \$50. If the program fee is less than \$25, please pay in full, via check or cash.

Payment by check: Write checks payable to POAMN

Return to: Carla Libby Gentry
 Registrar – POAMN Certification
 727 SE London Way, Lee's Summit, MO 64081
 Phone: 816-520-8353

office use only
 Date received _____
 By _____

RESOURCES FOR OLDER ADULT MINISTRIES

Engaging the Aging Magazine (contributed by many PNN readers)

Lutheran Senior Services publishes *Engaging the Aging* magazine filled with good older adult programming suggestions, books on the subject, and other helpful hints. Free subscriptions are available from: lsmith@lssmo.org.

VBS for Seniors? (excerpts from a letter that Darlene Shepherd received from Rev. Paul Holmer of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Clinton, Iowa about a successful older adult program in his congregation)

Thank you for your letter inquiring about our Vacation Bible School for seniors program. We call it MASH (Mature Adult Summer Happenings). Basically, we do the kind of things that you typically would do with kids at VBS: lesson, song time, crafts, refreshments. (We don't do recreation, which would normally be a part of children's VBS.) As with kids, we try to have a good time learning and growing in faith together. Indeed, summer fun isn't just for kids anymore! We came up with this idea ourselves here at Immanuel; so, as you probably understand, there is no published material available for such a program. At least, I don't know of any—if you have a source, please let me know. Therefore, we have had to develop the curriculum on our own.

This summer is our fourth year doing MASH. We are focusing on issues that affect seniors and using Bible stories of people who have dealt with them. It is one way of doing what was so common in biblical times, honoring and learning from our elders. (We seem to have lost that concept in our culture.) These are our daily themes and Bible stories this year:

- Waiting in Hope - Anna and Simeon, who waited patiently for God's Messiah
- Never Alone - Naomi, who thought she would be left alone in her old age.
- Valuing Wisdom - the elders at the gate, who were the advisors and judges in biblical communities
- God Provides - Elisha and the Widow, who feared she would be left without anything, but God provided in abundance (2 Kings 4:1-7)

These four sessions will all be at our church. In previous years, we did three-day series, Wednesday - Friday. We are expanding to four days this year. However, the feedback we got previously was that 3 days in a row was a bit much (so we have spaced them out over two weeks) and "Friday is hair day!" (so we are avoiding Fridays.)

In past years our themes were "Friendship Circles the Globe" (2008), "Waters of Life" (2007), and "Sharing God's Wonders" (2006).

In addition to the sessions at the church, we also take MASH "on the road" and do a full single session at several retirement and assisted living facilities in town. These have a different theme than the sessions at church and become both a community service and a promotion for the series at church. Last year we reached 83 people at 8 sites this way. This year our "road" theme is "Dealing with Change"—Abraham and Sarah, who dealt with all kinds of changes in their "senior years" - after all, Abraham was 75 when God called him to leave Haran, and was 100 (Sarah was 90) when Isaac was born. Talk about dealing with change in your later years! We will be doing these the last two weeks of July. We have not done these road sessions at nursing homes per se since the logistics and capabilities of the people are generally much more difficult.

I hope this gives you a bit of a picture of what we are doing. We are pleased that our work was recognized by the Lutheran Services for the Elderly Endowment at the ELCA Foundation and are happy to share our ideas and experiences with you and others.

(For more information, contact Darlene Shepherd at: dshep@mahaska.org)

(Missy Buchanan sent this email inviting the whole POAMN family to read her column in the magazine identified. The column *AGING WELL: Bringing music to aging ears* is worthy reading. Editor)

Thought you might want to read my most recent column for the *United Methodist Reporter*:

<http://www.umportal.org/article.asp?id=5555>

You might also be interested to know that *Presbyterians Today* is publishing a story of mine... about loving your aging parents. Will be published either this Fall or early 2010.



Winter Getaway POAMN Caribbean Fund Raising Cruise

Enjoy wonderful fellowship and worship opportunities while cruising the Caribbean on a Premium cruise ship. This cruise is open to everyone, so invite family and friends. The more cabins sold, the larger the donation to Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network.

7-night Caribbean Cruise departing **Saturday, February 20, 2010** from Ft. Lauderdale aboard the Eurodam

ITINERARY				PRICE	UNIQUELY Holland America
Day	Ports of Call	Arrive	Depart	<p>Price includes all taxes, fees, port charges and tips.</p> <p>Inside Stateroom From \$906.15 per person</p> <p>Oceanview Stateroom From \$1,066.15 per person</p> <p>Verandah Stateroom From \$1,206.15 per person</p> <p>Handicap rooms are available</p> <p>Call for prices on other staterooms and Suites</p> <p>Cancellation Penalties Today - 12/2/09 = No Penalty 12/3/09 - 12/21/09 = \$175 per person 12/22/09 - 1/20/10 = 50% of cruise price 1/21/10 - 2/3/10 = 75% of cruise price 2/4/10 - 2/20/10 = No refund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Around the clock dining options from fine cuisine to casual lunches poolside ◆ 24-Hour room service ◆ Broadway-style revues ◆ Club HAL Youth and Teen Program with professionally certified staff ◆ State of the art fitness center ◆ Culinary Arts Center presented by Food & Wine magazine ◆ Greenhouse Spa & Salon featuring thermal suites, hydrotherapy pool, heated ceramic lounges and more ◆ Sparkling swimming pools and hot tubs ◆ Warm, personal service and consistent attention to detail ◆ Casino gaming ◆ Recent-released movies ◆ Internet Cafe
Sat	Ft. Lauderdale Florida		5:00 PM		
Sun	Day At Sea				
Mon	Grand Turk Turk/Caicos Is.	7:00 AM	3:00 PM		
Tue	San Juan Puerto Rico	1:00 PM	11:00 PM		
Wed	St. Thomas US Virgin Is.	8:00 AM	5:00 PM		
Thur	Day At Sea				
Fri	Half Moon Cay Private Island	8:00 AM	4:00 PM		
Sat	Ft. Lauderdale Florida	7:00 AM			
<p>The Holland America Eurodam is one of their newest ships, launched in 2008. The ship will accommodate 2,104 guests, is 86,700 Gross Tons, has a length of 936 feet long. The Eurodam has automatic stabilizers, 11 Guest Decks, 14 Guest Elevators and 4 Outside Elevators. There are 26 Public rooms, 5 Restaurants, 2 Show Lounges, and 2 outdoor swimming pools.</p>					
<p>Half Moon Cay - The best private island experience. That's the way readers of <i>Port-hole Cruise Magazine</i> describe Half Moon Cay, Holland America's private island in the Bahamas. This 1,700-acre island -- only two percent of which is developed--features a huge interior lagoon and a two mile crescent of perfect beach rimmed by blue. Plus a host of luxurious amenities for a day of play like no other.</p>					
				<p>Reduced group deposit! \$175 per person due at reservation</p> <p>Final Payment due 12/02/09</p> <p><u>Limited cabins at these prices!</u> <u>Sign up today!</u></p> <p>Optional insurance is \$79.25 for Adults (cancel for any reason + medical coverage while on the cruise)</p>	

For information and reservations call:

Sunward Adventures

Douglas Kerr - Travel Consultant

(Doug will be at the POAMN meeting in September -but don't wait until then to sign up)

800-786-9273 x110 * 760-230-0047

doug@sunward.com

Thanks to all of you that have renewed your POAMN memberships for 2009! (listed below)
Your membership fees support the continuation of the Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network.

Marshall Alford Mesquite, TX	Mike Fonfara Beverly Hills, FL	Beecher Mathes Athens, GA	Alberta Smith Baltimore, MD
Edward Atkinson Oak Ridge, TN	Barbara Floryshak Tribes Hill, NY	Annette May Dayton, OH	Margaret Suttle Jackson, TN
Jeanne Bacheldor Arvada, CO	Beth Ann Force Wynnewood, PA	Sue Meagher Oxnard, CA	Thomas Suttle Jackson, TN
Barbara Baker Blue Bell, PA	Richard Force Wynnewood, PA	Mary McGuire Houston, TX	Charles Sutton Richmond, VA
Judith Baker Kettering, OH	William Foreman Lancaster, PA	Marjorie Osborne Newport News, VA	Kiki Swanson Scottsdale, AZ
Barbara Barnes Oxford, OH	Kenneth Fornicola Carlisle, PA	Lara Pauley Solana Beach, CA	Anne Tarbutton Newman, GA
Nancy Williams-Berry Colfax, NC	Carla Gentry Lee's Summit, MO	Agnes Peebles Cranberry Twp., PA	Lana Wingate Williamsburg, VA
Dwane T. Bell Louisville, TN	Dorothy Harper Oakland, MO	Douglas R. Potter Albertville, MN	Cindy Wright Solana Beach, CA
Ginger Broussard Orange, TX	Michele Shultz Hendrix Houston, TX	Gloria Pyne Katy, TX	Richard Wylie Sacramento, CA
Donald G. Carlin Philadelphia, PA	Quentin Holmes Marcola, OR	Samuel Riccobene Austin, TX	Desiree Youngblood Sanderson, TX
David B. Castrodale Keokuk, IA	Barbara Huggins Lakeland, FL	Richard A. Ridge Fredericksburg, VA	Erin Presbyterian Church Knoxville, TN
Helen R. Cole Southern Pines, NC	Richard Huggins Lakeland, FL	Robert Ridgway Beltsville, MO	First Presbyterian Church Oskaloosa, IA
Mrs. Walter Cottingha Kingstree, SC	Alan Hutchison Youngstown, OH	Rose Ridgeway Beltsville, MO	Grace Presbyterian Church Houston, TX
Robin Cuany Knoxville, TN	Eleanor Jaynes Knoxville, TN	Dennis Ritchie Bella Vista, AR	Grand Lakes Presby Church Katy, TX
Elizabeth Day Baltimore, MD	Hugh Jaynes Knoxville, TN	Len Roark Wellington, CO	Ingleside at Rock Creek Washington, DC
Paul T. DeCamp New Orleans, LA	Susie Johnson Dallas, TX	Glenn N. Rogers Cincinnati, OH	Newnan Presbyterian Church Newnan, GA
Pam Dobbins Cedarville, OH	Linda Kelly Las Vegas, NV	Esther Rounds Baldwinsville, NY	Pennington Presby Church Pennington, NJ
Donald Drew Watertown, NY	Thomas Kelly Las Vegas, NV	Gerry Sanders Oakmont, PA	Presbyterian Senior Care Oakmont, PA
Miriam Dunson Commerce, GA	Barbara Knoops Maryville, TN	Darlene Shepherd Oskaloosa, IA	Presbytery of Des Moines Urbandale, IA
Juanita I. Eldridge Winston-Salem, NC	Leta Kopp Rockville, MD	Carlene Sikorsky Ojai, CA	Presbytery of East Tennessee Knoxville, TN
Ralph G. Fogal Zelienople, PA	Doug Kurtz Flushing, NY	JoAnn Simmers Avondale Estates, GA	If your name was left off this membership listing in error please contact Ginny at gnyhuis@verizon.net or by calling 615-426-1545.
Lynn Fonfara Beverly Hills, FL	Deana Lavender Beaver, PA	Marvin Simmers Avondale Estates, GA	

WEBSITES WORTH VISITING



www.nethugs.com/inspirational/be-thankful

This site presents a picture and encouraging text for a daily devotional. It helps the reader focus on the daily activities that makes a Christian give thanks to a loving God.

www.agnusday.org

Type this address and get a weekly bible passage from the Lutheran Lectionary followed by a related cartoon. The author give permission for the user to place the cartoon in their newsletter or other ministry matter for simply sending a copy of the publication to the address in the website..

www.luthersem.edu/godpause

Here is a site for daily devotionals produced by Luther Seminary.

www.ijourney.org

At this website, the CharityFocus.org offers a modern parable for readers to consider and discover wisdom for their lives. It originates in India with inter-faith messages.

CALLING ALL CHAPLAINS

(Rev. Tom Tickner)

We who are in specialized ministries, such as ministry in long term care settings or in nursing facilities, find that our ministry can be lonely in some ways. We now have a unique opportunity to join together in support of one another and to learn from one another. That opportunity is the POAMN gathering in Tucson, Arizona September 29 – October 1. I hope that you will consider joining us in Tucson. We will have some time together in a workshop to share our ministries, to support one another and to grow and learn from each other. You will find registration information in this newsletter. Also, please feel free to email me with questions: Ttickner@prescs.org.

I hope that we will see some new faces and will have an opportunity to renew time with those who have attended before.

Please remember with each new year POAMN membership fees were due.

Complete the following application and return with your membership fees.

POAMN Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Synod: _____

Presbytery: _____

Church: _____

Other (Organization): _____

Membership Type:

- \$30 Full
- \$20 Affiliate
- \$100 Institutional (PAHSA, PCUSA schools, etc.)

Governing Bodies:

- \$50 Small Church (under 150)
- \$100 Medium Church (151-499)
- \$200 Large Church (500+)
- \$250 Small Presbytery (under 10,000)
- \$500 Medium Presbytery (10,001-19,999)
- \$1000 Large Presbytery (20,000+)
- \$1000 Synod

Make checks payable to:

POAMN

**c/o Linda Kelly, Treasurer
2212 Beacon Ridge Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89134**

May the blessing of light be on you, light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine upon you and warm your heart till it glows,
like a great peat fire, so that the stranger may come
and warm himself at it, as well as the friend.

And may the light shine out of the eyes of you,
like a candle set in the windows of a house,
bidding the wanderer to come in out of the storm.

And may the blessing of the rain be on you - the soft sweet rain.
May it fall upon your spirit so that all the little flowers may spring up
and shed their sweetness on the air.

And may the blessing of the great rains be on you,
that they beat upon your spirit and wash it fair and clean,
and leave there many a shining pool, and sometimes a star.

And may the blessing of the earth be on you - the great round earth;
may you ever have a kindly greeting for people you pass
as you are going along the roads.

And now may the Lord bless you, and bless you kindly.

- An Ancient Irish Blessing

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE MATERIALS ENCLOSED - RESPOND IMMEDIATELY

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**POAMN Network News
P.O. Box 700311
Oostburg, WI 53070**

